

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

[REDACTED]

DIST: 03 OCTOBER 1990

[REDACTED]

COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

SUBJ: MILITARY PRESSURE ON THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE TO RESOLVE
JESUIT MURDER CASE AND ADDRESS CORRUPTION IN THE
SALVADORAN MILITARY

[REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. IN EARLY OCTOBER 1990, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STATED THAT MEMBERS OF TWO SALVADORAN MILITARY
GRADUATING CLASSES, OR "TANDAS," ARE PRESSURING MINISTER OF DEFENSE
COLONEL RENE EMILIO ((PONCE)) TO RESOLVE THE JESUIT MURDER CASE AND
ELIMINATE WIDESPREAD CORRUPTION IN THE SENIOR ECHELONS OF THE
SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES (ESAF). [REDACTED] HE
ATTENDED A PARTY AT WHICH SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS DISCUSSED THE
PRESSURE BEING APPLIED ON PONCE BY THE "TANDA" OF ESAF LT. COL.

[REDACTED]

Approved for Release

NOV 1993

2. [REDACTED] THE PARTICIPANTS AGREED ON THE NEED TO RESOLVE THE ABOVE ISSUES IMMEDIATELY AND THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE "TANDONA," (SALVADORAN MILITARY ACADEMY CLASS OF 1966) MUST BE FORCED INTO RETIREMENT IN ORDER TO PURGE THE ESAF OF ITS MOST CORRUPT MEMBERS. [REDACTED] THE PARTICIPANTS EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION; [REDACTED] SINGLED OUT D'AUBUISSON AS THE PARTICIPANT WHO REPEATEDLY STRESSED THE NEED FOR ACTION ON PONCE'S PART; FAILING ACTION BY PONCE, D'AUBUISSON SAID "SOMETHING WILL HAVE TO BE DONE." [REDACTED] BUSTILLO VOCIFEROUSLY REPLIED THAT HE COULD GUARANTEE PILOTS AND "ELITE TROOPS" TO INTERVENE IN THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT ALFREDO ((CRISTIANI)) IF IT WERE DEEMED NECESSARY. [REDACTED]